



12-7 CATWALKS ON STEEL BRIDGES

General Requirements

Structures Maintenance and Investigation should be contacted to determine if a catwalk(s) or other method of access such as the inspection platform should be provided on a project.

Catwalks shall be a minimum of 610 mm (2 feet) wide and shall have 100 mm (4-inch) high toe boards installed whenever pedestrians or vehicular traffic pass under the walkway.

Materials

Materials shall conform to appropriate Caltrans Bridge Design Specifications, AASHTO and/or Cal-OSHA standards.

Railings shall be galvanized and shall be rigid metal tubing or rolled structural shapes. Cables and timber shall not be used for railings.

Timber shall not be used for planking or as structural members supporting the catwalk.

Access

Catwalks shall have lockable gates or hatches to control access.

When access requires a vertical climb of 18.3 m (60 feet) or more, a personnel lift should be built into the structure if feasible.

Whenever feasible, adequate headroom should be provided and every effort should be made to minimize the number of obstacles that will be encountered by the personnel using the catwalk.

Where catwalks are located in more than one bay, provisions should be made for crossing between catwalks at the piers.

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